

# POPPO

10¢

of the **POPCORN** THEATRE

VOL. I, NO. 9

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IF BAM FOLLOWS  
BIFF, AND BANG FOLLOWS  
BING, WHAT FOLLOWS  
CHRISTMAS?

HAPPY  
NEW YEAR!







WEB COMIC  
UNIVERSE.COM



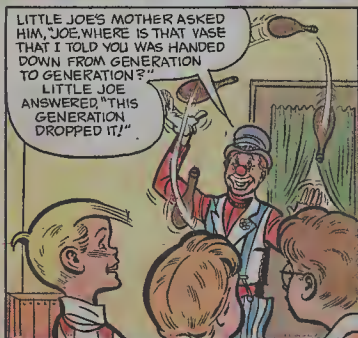


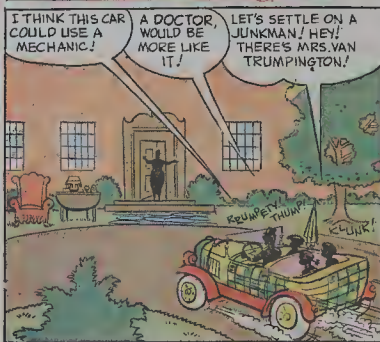
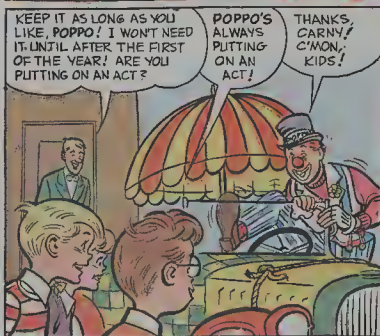
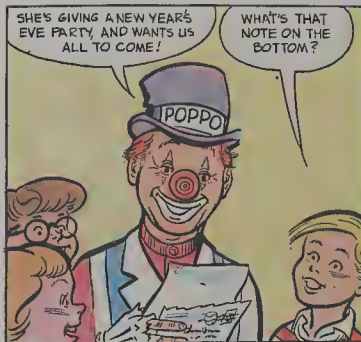
**POPPO**

—THE CLOWN—WHO "CAN'T HELP LIKING KIDS", HAS TRAVELED THE WORLD OVER PHOTOGRAPHING HIS ADVENTURES—THE GREAT ACTS THAT PLAYED ON THE SAME BILL—AND, COLLECTING PRINTS OF THE CARTOONS AND COMEDIES THAT HE ENJOYED. BORN TO THE CIRCUS, AND THE JOY OF MAKING OTHERS LAUGH, HIDING HIS OWN SORROWS SO OTHERS MAY BE HAPPY, HE IS THE CLOWN OF ALL AGES—FOR ALL AGES. NOW HE HAS RETIRED FROM THE CIRCUS, BUT STILL FINDS HIS REWARDS IN LIFE MAKING OTHERS LAUGH.



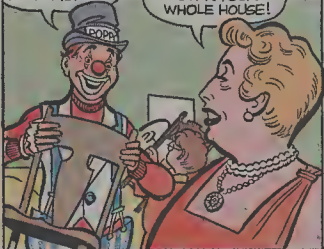
# POPPO the CLOWN





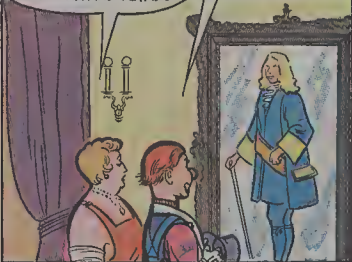
THIS IS SWELL, MA'AM, BUT I'D LIKE TO ASK FOR ONE THING MORE! I'VE GOT A HOLE IN THE WALL, AND I NEED A BIG PICTURE!

I HAVE JUST THE THING! IT'S A DREARY OLD PORTRAIT BY VAN SOMEBODY! MISERABLE THING! AND IT'S BIG ENOUGH TO COVER YOUR WHOLE HOUSE!

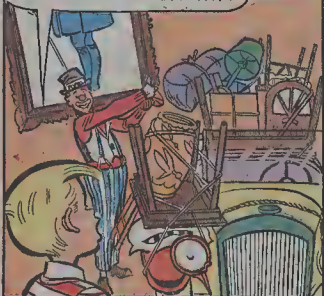


NOBODY HAS FLEMISH ANY MORE! IT'S IMPRESSIONISM, CUBISM, SURREALISM— THIS IS JUST GAUCHE AND OUTRÉ!

YESSUM, BUT IT'S KINDA PRETTY AND IT'LL COVER MY WALL JUST FINE!



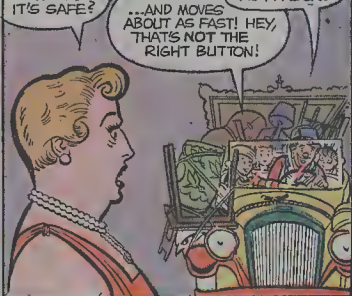
WHERE'RE YOU GOING TO PUT THAT—IN THE GLOVE COMPARTMENT?



ARE YOU... ER... SURE IT'S SAFE?

DON'T WORRY—SHE'S SOUND AS A ROCK!

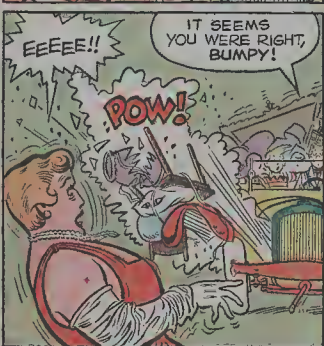
...AND MOVES ABOUT AS FAST! HEY, THAT'S NOT THE RIGHT BUTTON!



EEEEEE!!

IT SEEMS YOU WERE RIGHT, BUMPY!

POW!



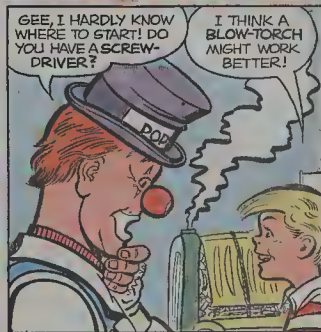
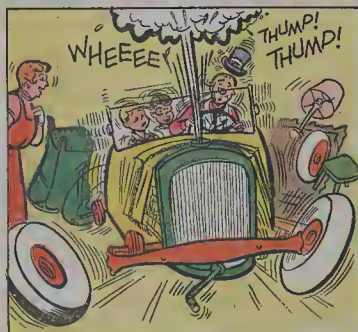
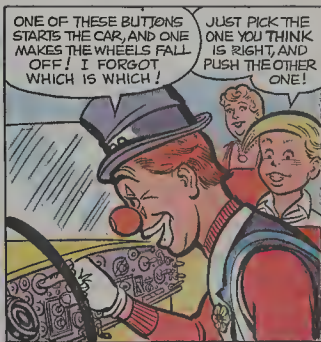
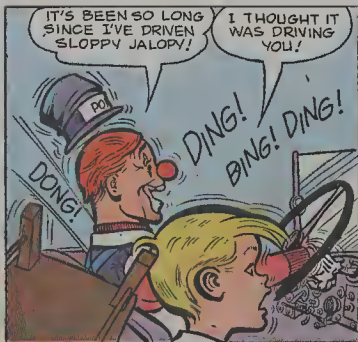
I'LL JUST GET HER STARTED, AND THEN WE CAN PILE EVERYTHING ON TOP!

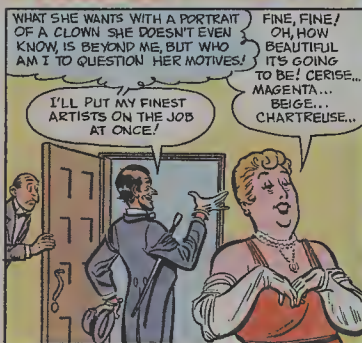
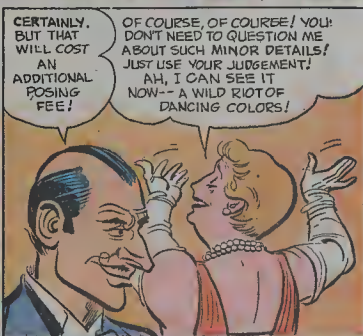
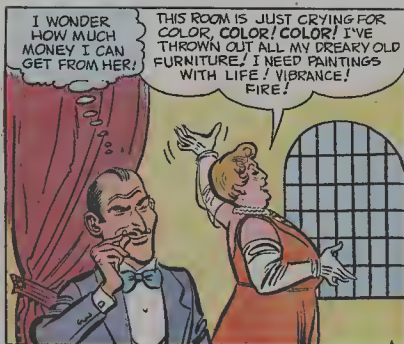
WAIT TILL I GET OUT OF RANGE!

POPPY! THAT'S WRONG, TOO!

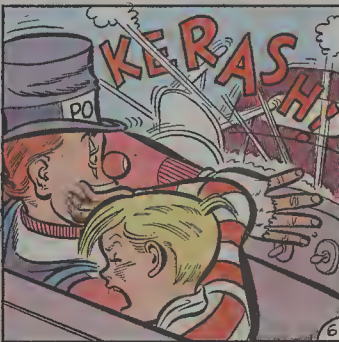
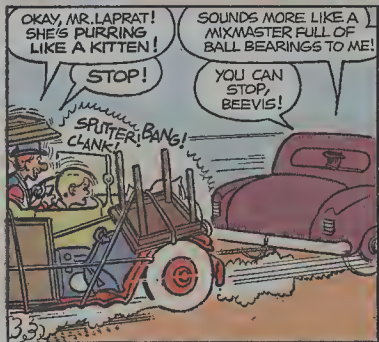
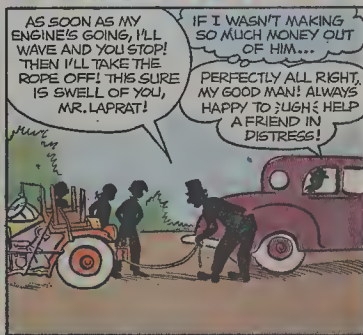
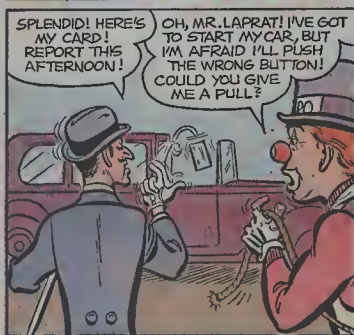
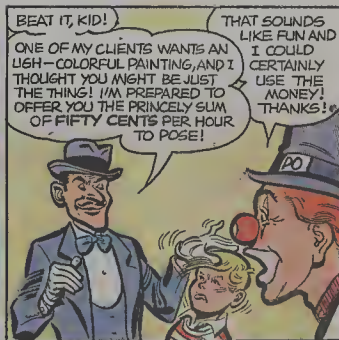


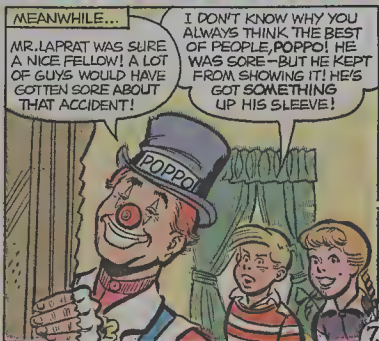
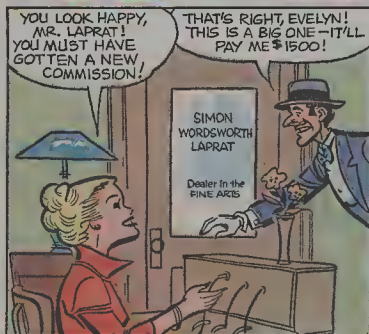
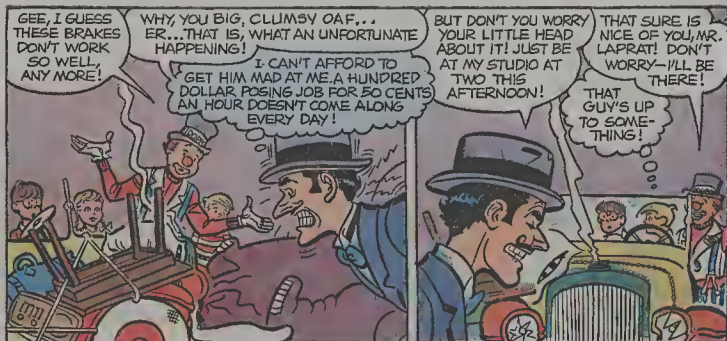












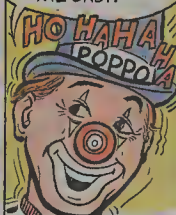


JUST REMEMBER, KIDS... THINGS AREN'T ALWAYS JUST AS THEY SEEM! TAKE THE FELLOW WHO KEPT BRAGGING ABOUT HOW BRAVE HIS BROTHER WAS! SAID HE'O PUNCHED THE HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMP IN THE NOSE!



POPPO MUST FEEL GOOD! HE'S TELLING JOKES AGAIN!

ONE DAY SOMEBODY SAID HE'D LIKE TO SHAKE HANDS WITH A BRAVE MAN LIKE THAT. "YOU'RE OUT OF LUCK," THE BRAGGART SAID. "AT LEAST UNTIL HIS HAND IS OUT OF THE CAST!"



AND NOW I'VE GOT TO GET TO WORK! GEE WHILLKERS, I'LL BET THE FELLOWS BACK AT THE CIRCUS NEVER THOUGHT I'D BECOME AN ARTIST'S MODEL!



WAIT, POPPO! DON'T LEAVE US!

YOU'RE A LITTLE LATE, POPPO! STEP ON IT!



SORRY! WE DECIDED NOT TO RISK THE CAR THIS TIME, AND WALKED OVER!

HE DIDN'T MEAN TO STEP ON THAT!



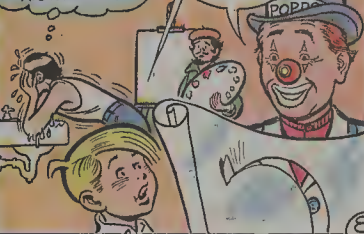
OOOPS! SORRY!

GEE, I'M SORRY, MR. LAPRAT! HERE, LET ME WIPE IT OFF!



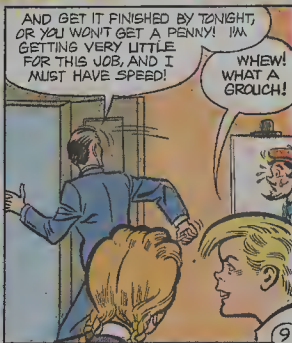
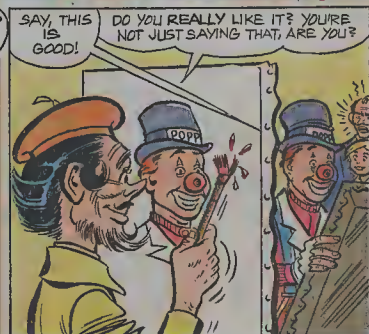
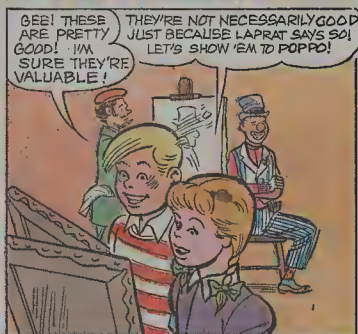
GET AWAY, YOU IDIOT!

I DON'T KNOW WHY I'M CURSED WITH PEOPLE LIKE THIS! IF IT WASN'T FOR MY \$1,500 COMMISSION I'D TOSS HIM OUT RIGHT NOW!



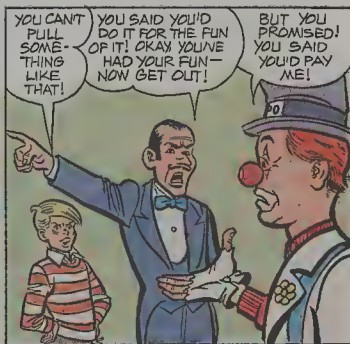
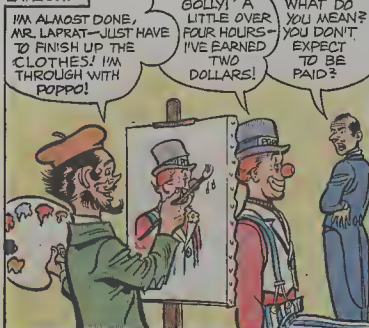
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?

MR. LAPRAT'S GETTING IN KIND OF A BAD MOOD, AND I'M GOING TO CHEER HIM UP!



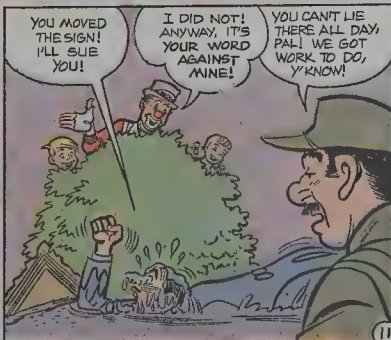
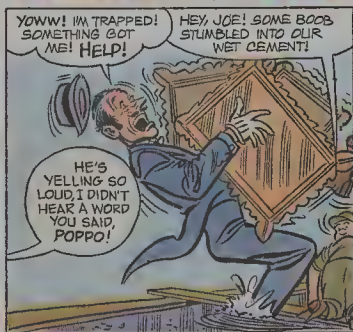
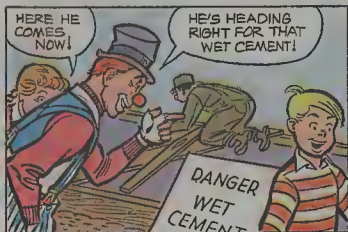


LATER...

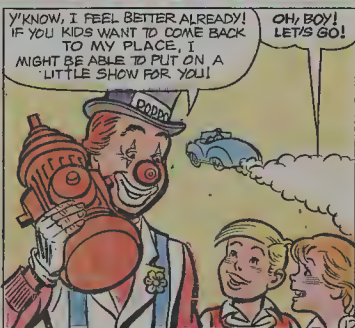
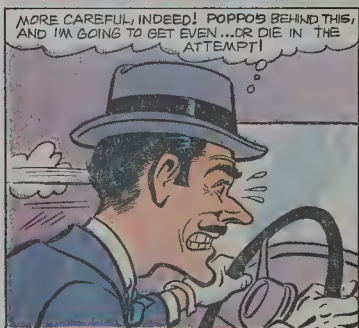
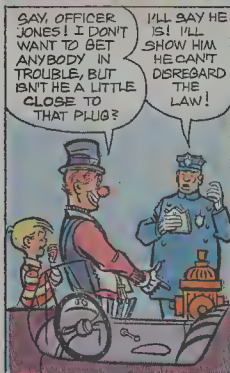
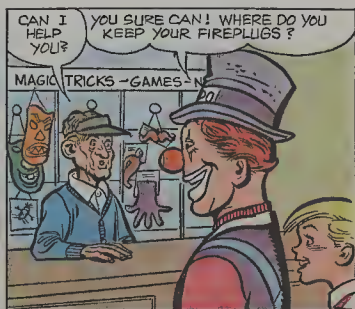


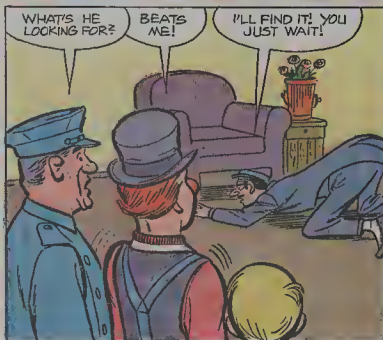
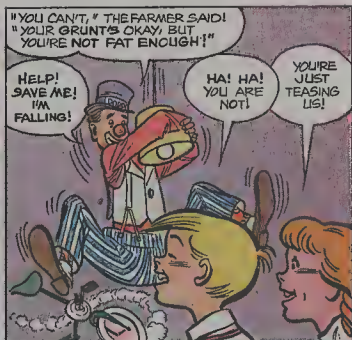
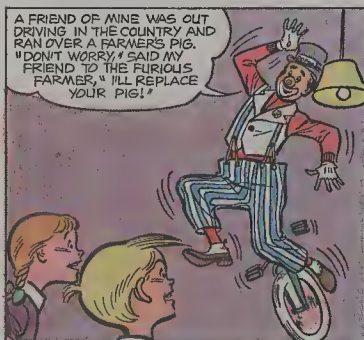
# POPPO *in*

## "CAN GIVE, CAN'T TAKE"

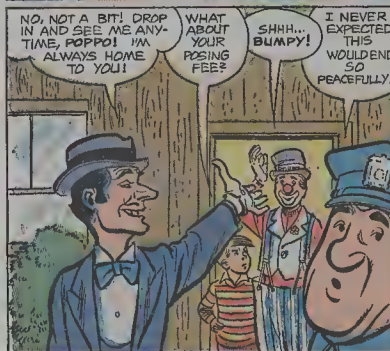
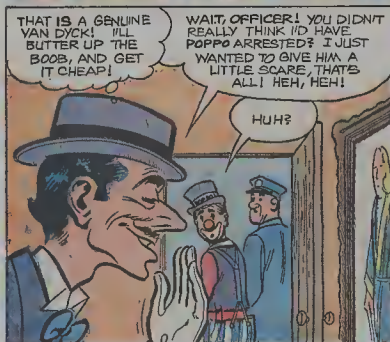
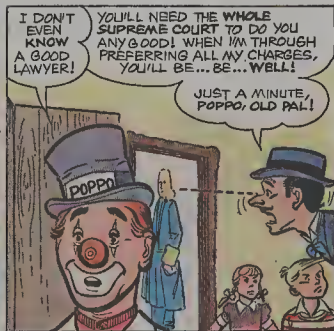
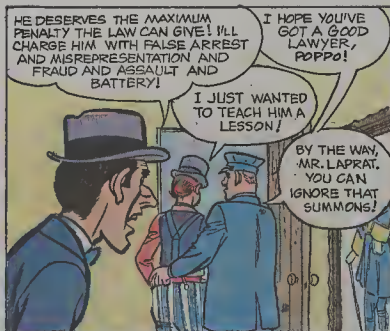


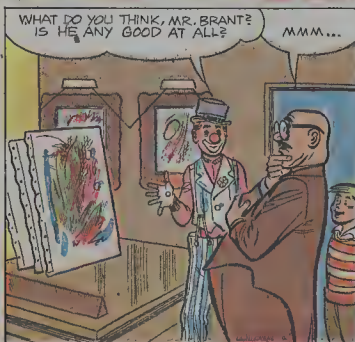
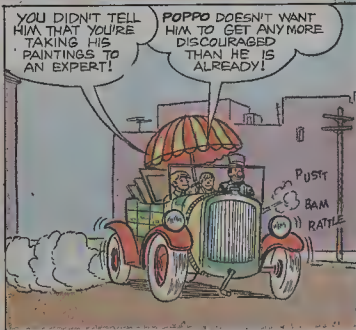
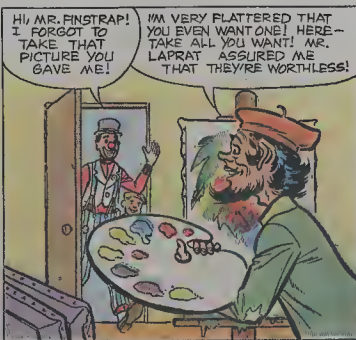








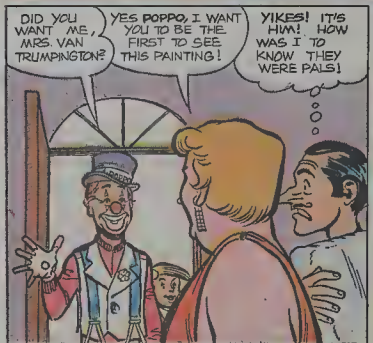
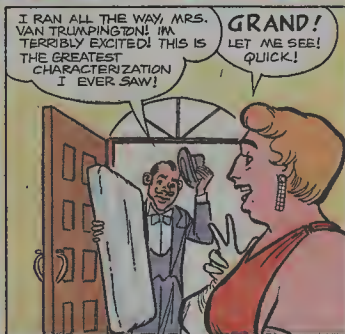
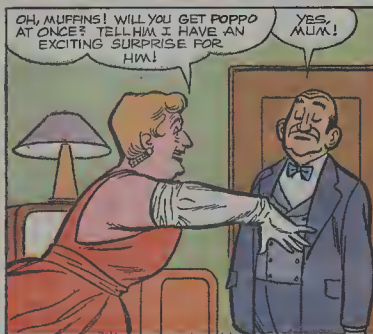






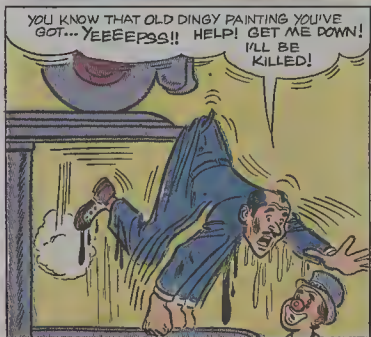
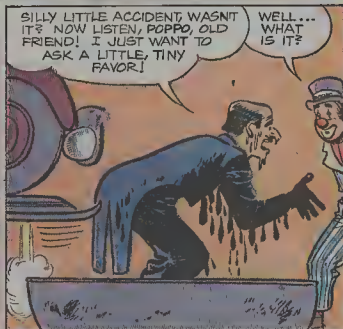
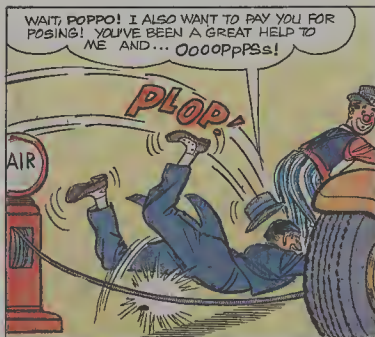
# POPPO *in*

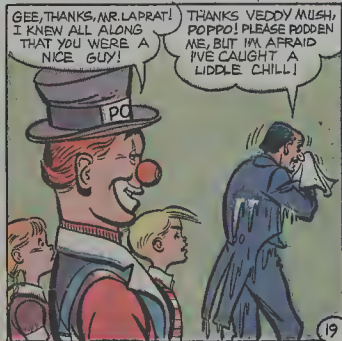
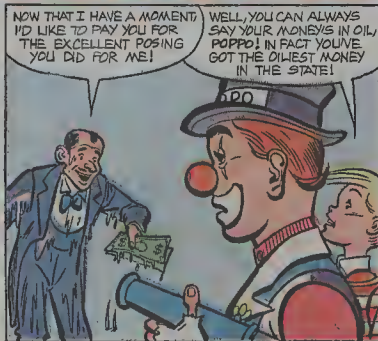
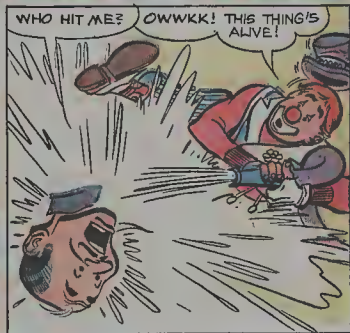
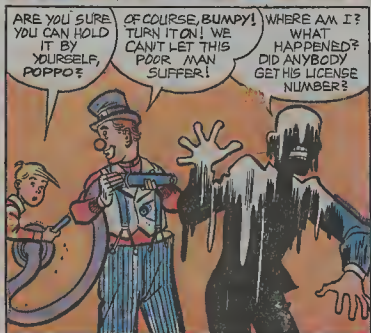
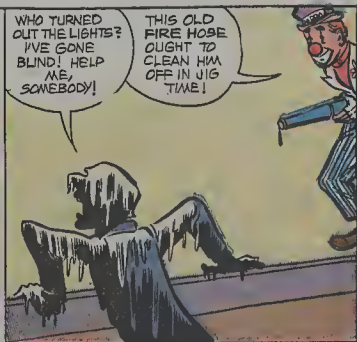
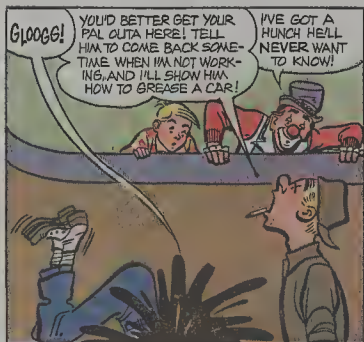
## "BITTER PILL TO SWALLOW"











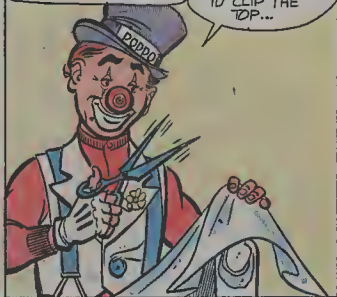


BACK IN THE THEATRE...

THANK YOU, BUMPY!  
NOW I'LL JUST PUSH YOUR  
HANDKERCHIEF DOWN INTO THE NECK OF THIS  
ORDINARY MILK BOTTLE...



COVER IT UP WITH THIS CLOTH... SAY A FEW  
MAGIC WORDS... GET A PAIR OF SCISSORS  
TO CLIP THE  
TOP...



AND OUT IT COMES! OH DEAR! I'M SORRY,  
BUMPY! SOMETHING SEEMS TO HAVE  
GONE WRONG!



HA!  
HA! HA!

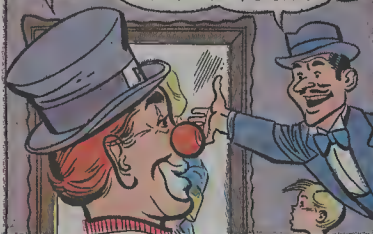
NOW, IN CASE YOUR EARS  
ARE RINGING, DON'T  
WORRY! I'VE GOT A WHOLE  
TRUNKFUL OF RINGS  
AND HERE...

HAW! HAW! WHAT  
A TRICK! YOU'RE A  
REAL ARTIST, POPPO,  
OL' PAL! I'VE GOT TO  
HAND IT TO YOU!



GEE, THANKS,  
MR. LAPRAT!  
IS THERE  
ANYTHING I  
CAN DO FOR  
YOU?

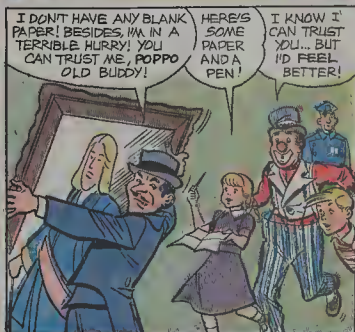
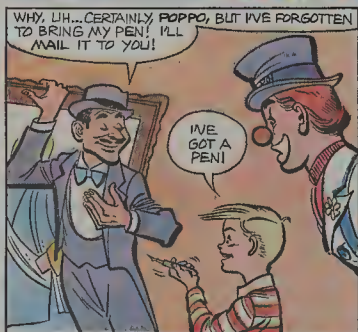
I... AH... JUST CAME OVER TO SEE  
YOUR SHOW, BUT, NOW THAT YOU  
MENTION IT... UH... I WONDER IF I  
COULD BORROW THAT PICTURE FOR  
A FEW DAYS? I'M UH... HAVING SOME  
ART DEALERS IN, AND WANT TO  
DRESS UP MY STUDIO!

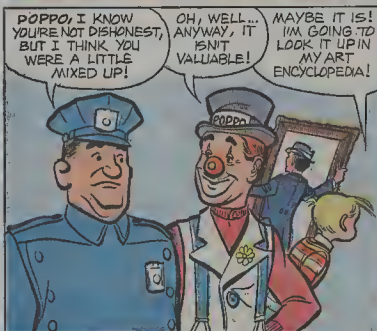
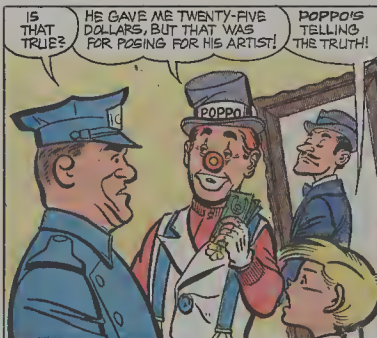


WHY, SURE! THIS IS JUST  
AN OLD PAINTING THAT  
ISN'T WORTH ANYTHING,  
BUT IF YOU WANT TO  
BORROW IT, YOU'RE  
CERTAINLY  
WELCOME!

JUST AN OLD  
PAINTING... HA! IT'S  
PRICELESS... AND  
NOW, IT'S GOING TO  
BE MINE!  
HA! HA! MINE!



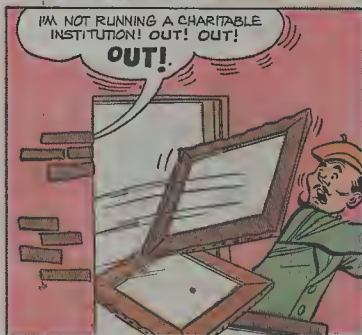
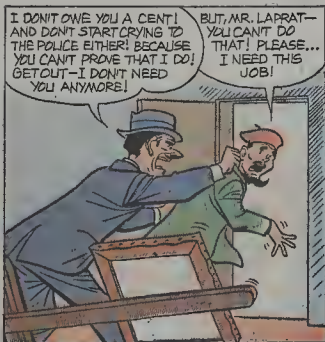
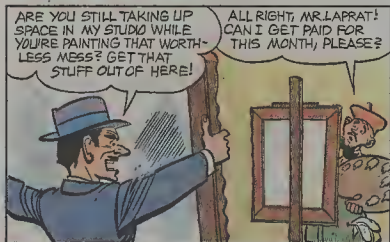


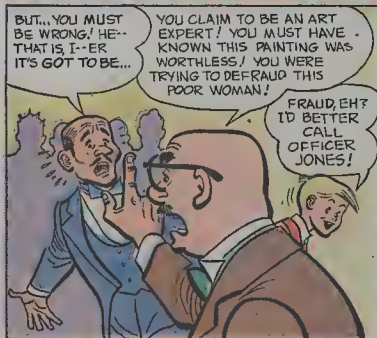
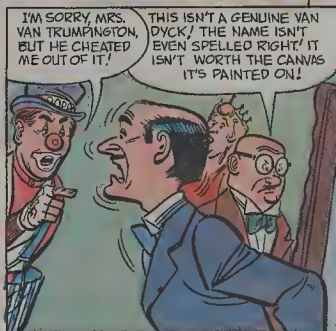


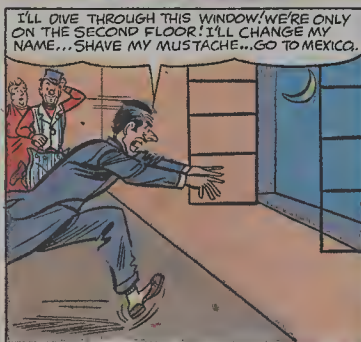
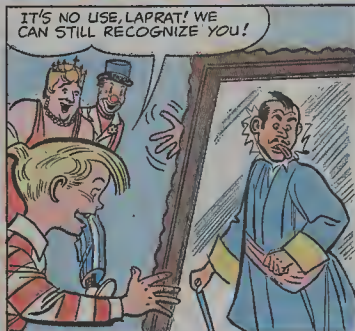
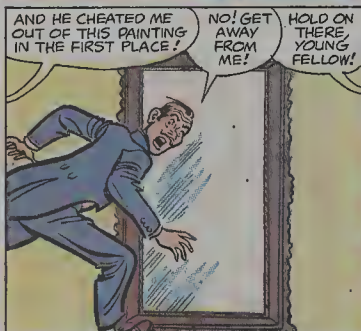


# POPPO

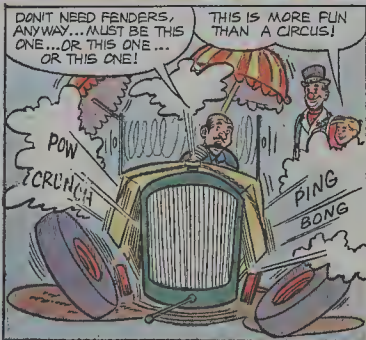
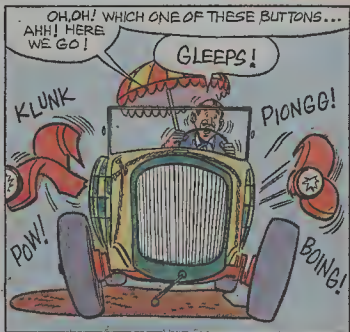
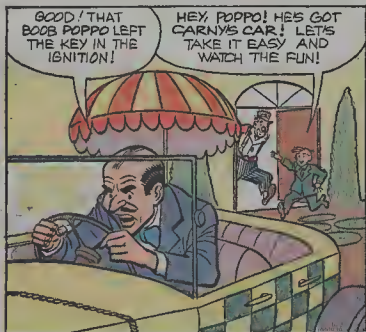
## "CRASHING in the NEW YEAR"

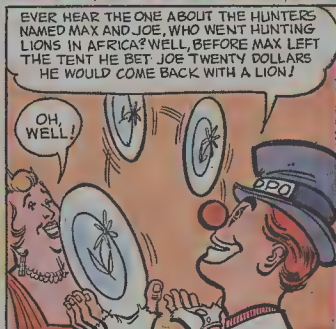
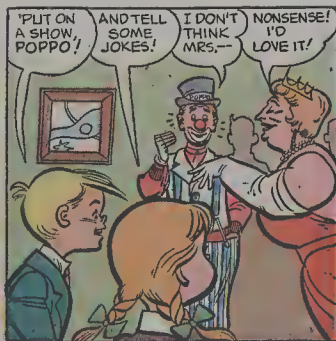


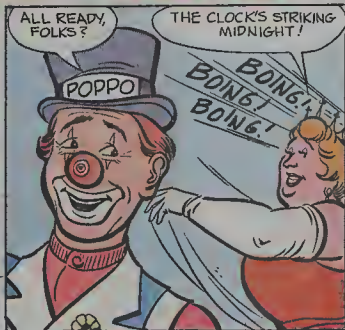
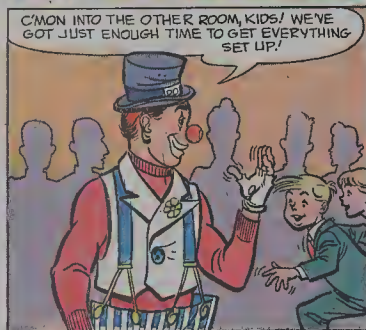














# POPPO'S SOCKFUL of TRICKS



POP!

BUMPY AND GINGER,  
I CAN STAND BOTH OF  
YOU ON THIS NEWSPAPER  
ON THE FLOOR, FACING  
EACH OTHER! AND YET  
YOU WON'T BE ABLE  
TO SEE OR EVEN  
TOUCH EACH  
OTHER!

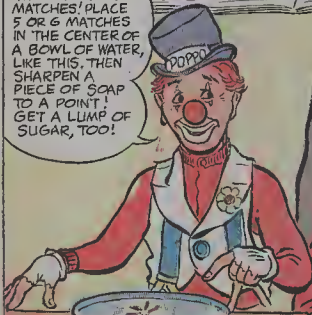
NO  
1

POPPO, HOW  
CAN YOU?



THIS IS A CATCH TRICK  
WITH WHICH YOU CAN FOOL  
A LOT OF PEOPLE! AFTER  
EVERYONE HAS TOLD YOU  
IT CAN'T BE DONE, YOU  
SHOW THEM HOW IT CAN!  
LAY THE NEWSPAPER  
THROUGH A DOORWAY. HAVE  
ONE PERSON STAND ON ONE  
END OF THE PAPER. THEN  
CLOSE THE THE DOOR AND  
STAND THE OTHER PERSON  
ON THE OPPOSITE END.  
NEITHER ONE CAN SEE OR  
TOUCH THE OTHER, JUST  
AS YOU SAID!

I CALL THIS  
THE TRICK OF  
THE BEWITCHED  
MATCHES! PLACE  
5 OR 6 MATCHES  
IN THE CENTER OF  
A BOWL OF WATER,  
LIKE THIS. THEN  
SHARPEN A  
PIECE OF SOAP  
TO A POINT!  
GET A LUMP OF  
SUGAR, TOO!



DIP THE POINT OF THE SOAP BETWEEN  
THE MATCHES. THE MATCHES WILL DASH  
TO THE EDGES OF THE BOWL! NOW PLACE  
THE LUMP OF SUGAR IN THE CENTER OF  
OF THE BOWL. THE MATCHES WILL  
RETURN TO THEIR ORIGINAL POSITION!

NOW TRY THIS ONE!  
ROLL UP A PIECE OF BLUE  
PAPER AND PUT IT IN A  
MATCH-BOX. MARK THE END  
OF THE DRAWER WITH A  
BLUE PENCIL AND CLOSE  
THE BOX. ROLL UP A PIECE  
OF RED PAPER AND PUT  
IT IN THE OTHER BOX. MARK  
THE END OF THIS DRAWER  
WITH A RED PENCIL. SET  
THE BOXES ON A TABLE,  
PASS YOUR HAND OVER  
THEM, THEN OPEN THEM!



THE BLUE PAPER WILL BE IN THE BOX WITH THE  
RED MARK, AND THE RED PAPER IN THE BOX  
MARKED BLUE! ---SECRET! YOU PREVIOUSLY  
MARKED THE OPPOSITE ENDS OF EACH DRAWER  
WITH THE OPPOSITE COLOR! IN PICKING UP  
THE BOXES, TURN THEM AROUND, SO THESE  
MARKS WILL CORRESPOND WITH THE  
COLORED PAPER BALLS INSIDE THE BOXES!

# SOCKFUL of TRICKS

NO. 2

TO DO THIS TRICK, I STAND ON TOP OF THE TABLE! WITH MY LEFT HAND, I REACH UNDER THE TABLE. NOW I'M GOING TO HIT THAT LUMP OF SUGAR AS HARD AS I CAN!

**SMACKO!**

THE LUMP OF SUGAR MUST HAVE GONE RIGHT THROUGH THE TABLE! THERE IT IS IN THE CRUMPLED PAPER! SECRET: POPPO HAD TAKEN OUT THE SUGAR AND PUT THE CLOSED UP EMPTY WRAPPER BACK IN THE SUGAR BOWL IN ADVANCE! THE ACTUAL LUMP WAS IN THE LEFT HAND ALL THE TIME! FOR ADDED EFFECT, A HALF-FULL GLASS OF WATER CAN BE STEADED ON TOP OF THE EMPTY WRAPPER, WITHOUT CRUMPLING IT! THEN PUSH DOWN ON THE GLASS, HARD!

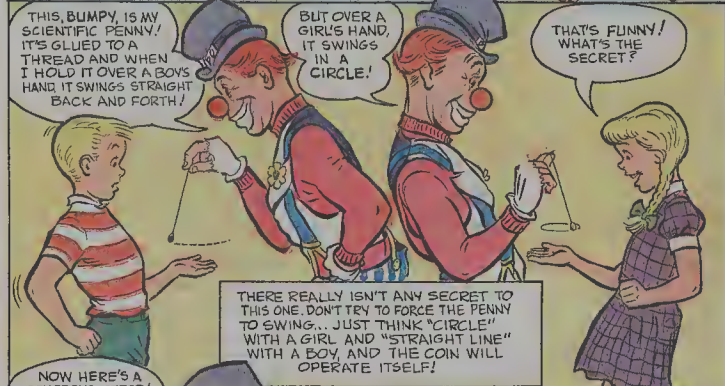
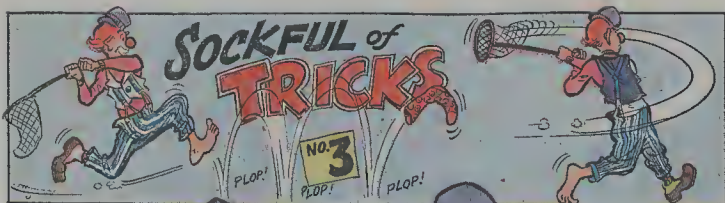
WHAT DO YOU FELLAS MAKE OF THAT CRAZY GOLF BALL? IT KEEPS ROLLING RIGHT ACROSS A FLAT, LEVEL TABLE! IS IT ALIVE? EXAMINE IT, SOMEBODY!

SEE THIS ACE OF HEARTS, BUMPY! I'LL TOSS IT FACE DOWN ON THE FLOOR! THERE! PUT YOUR FOOT ON IT! NOW TAKE YOUR FOOT OFF AND LOOK AT THE CARD!

**POPPO!  
IT'S THE  
ACE OF  
SPADES!**

UNDER THE TABLECLOTH IS A SMALL RING ATTACHED TO A THREAD! POPPO SETS THE BALL ON THE HIDDEN RING. THE KID IN THE CHECKERED SHIRT IS IN ON THE TRICK AND IS SECRETLY PULLING THE THREAD, ROLLING THE BALL ALONG!

POPPO HAS THE ACE OF SPADES IN HIS HAND UNDER THE ACE OF HEARTS. IN THROWING, HIS FINGERS WORK THE ACE OF SPADES FORWARD, SO IT FALLS TO THE FLOOR. HIS THROWING HAND SLIPS THE PACK IN THE OTHER HAND, LEAVING THE ACE OF HEARTS ON TOP...







# SOCKFUL of TRICKS



NO. 4

HOW MANY OF YOU FIGURED OUT THE "MYSTERIOUS LETTER" TRICK I SHOWED YOU LAST WEEK?

REMEMBER GINGER WROTE AN INITIAL ON A LUMP OF SUGAR AND PUT IT UPSIDE DOWN ON THE TABLE.



I DROPPED THE SUGAR INTO A GLASS OF WATER, AND TOLD HER TO CLOSE HER FIST.



AFTER THE SUGAR WAS PARTLY DISSOLVED, I TOLD HER TO OPEN HER FIST, AND ON THE PALM OF HER HAND WAS THE INITIAL, JUST THE WAY SHE WROTE IT!

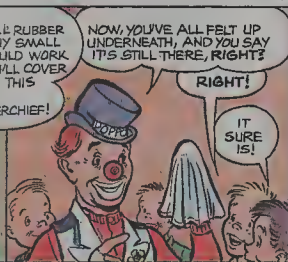


THEN, I HELD THE GLASS OVER HER FIST.

NOW, HERE'S HOW! I MOISTENED MY THUMB ON THE DAMP GLASS...WHEN I PICKED UP THE SUGAR, I PRESSED MY DAMP THUMB AGAINST THE INITIAL BEFORE DROPPING IT INTO THE GLASS. THIS LEFT A PRINT OF THE INITIAL ON MY THUMB. WHEN I HELPED GINGER CLOSE HER HAND INTO A FIST, MY THUMB PRESSED AGAINST HER PALM, AND PRINTED THE INITIAL. NOW YOU KNOW THE SECRET. TRY IT!!



HERE'S A SMALL RUBBER BALL, BUT ANY SMALL OBJECT WOULD WORK AS WELL. I'LL COVER IT WITH THIS BIG HANDKERCHIEF!



NOW, YOU'VE ALL FELT UP UNDERNEATH, AND YOU SAY IT'S STILL THERE, RIGHT?

RIGHT!

IT SURE IS!



TEAR AN OBLONG PIECE OF PAPER INTO THREE CONNECTED FLAPS AS IN THE DIAGRAM. CHALLENGE ANYONE TO HOLD THE PAPER BY FLAP A AND FLAP C, AND TEAR THEM BOTH AWAY FROM THE CENTER FLAP B AT THE SAME TIME. DOES IT SOUND EASY? IT CAN'T BE DONE! TRY IT.



THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK.

AGAIN, POPPO USES A HELPER. THE LAST PERSON TO REACH UNDERNEATH REMOVES THE BALL. WHEN POPPO DRAPES THE HANDKERCHIEF OVER HIS EMPTY HAND, HIS PAL REACHES UNDER (LAST AGAIN) AND PUTS THE BALL BACK.

SAY! DID YOU KNOW I HAVE ELEVEN FINGERS?

1, 2, 3, 4, 5!

6, 7, 8, 9, 10! ???

THAT'S FUNNY! I WAS SURE IT WAS ELEVEN! LET'S TRY AGAIN. 10, 9, 8, 7, 6...

AND FIVE MORE MAKES ELEVEN!



# **KIDS!**

*See and hear me every week*

# **ON T.V.**

*Tune in*

*Poppo*

**"THE POPCORN THEATRE"**

a full hour of fun with POPPO, cartoons,  
comedies and adventure!

**RAIN OR SHINE, IT'S ALWAYS TIME  
TO CURL UP WITH A GOOD  
POPPO FUNNYBOOK!**



